



**Millie Grundy
(BA Geography)**

Teaching, Thailand

1. Where did you go?

I went to Khok Kloi in Khao Lak in **Thailand**.

2. What organisation did you go with?

I worked with a company called **Original Volunteers**: <https://www.originalvolunteers.co.uk/>

3. What did you do?

I volunteered at Wat Trimasathit School for two weeks in June 2018. My role included independently teaching classes of primary school children. Using the most basic resources, me and my group taught English and Maths to the students each day, from 8:30-3pm.

4. What was the highlight of your trip?

The highlight of my trip was the children being able to speak basic English through the hard work of me and my team, telling us their names and how old they were.

5. What did you learn/gain from working/studying/volunteering overseas?

I gained a lot of skills through the experience, including **independence and improving on my teaching skills**. The children really wanted to learn and this motivated me to further my volunteering experience this year too. My independence grew due to travelling across the world by myself and **broadening my understanding of diverse international cultures**.

6. Has anything you learnt while away helped you in your subsequent studies?

The experience has enabled me to increase **my interest in global issues** such as lack of education in countries that are not deemed as developing. I would say my trip increased my want to help make the world a better place, as we are very fortunate in this country and **enabled me to see just how privileged we are**.

7. In what ways (if any) do you think your experience has boosted your employability?

I think volunteering increased my employability as it not only reflects my want to help others, but a number of skills are also gained throughout the experience, such as **team leadership skills**.

8. Are there any downsides to working/studying/volunteering overseas and/or reasons not to do it?

No, I enjoyed every second of it. Maybe the cost may be an issue for people but **the university really helped me with the finances**.